

## S 3798

### Hong Kong Autonomy Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** May 21, 2020

**Current Status:** Held at the desk.

**Latest Action:** Held at the desk. (Jun 29, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3798>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 21, 2020
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		May 21, 2020
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		May 21, 2020
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Jun 2, 2020
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Jun 2, 2020
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jun 2, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 2, 2020
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Jun 25, 2020
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Jun 25, 2020
Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jun 25, 2020
Sen. Sasse, Ben [R-NE]	R · NE		Jun 25, 2020

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Jun 25, 2020

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4049	Related bill	Aug 7, 2020: Held at the desk.
116 HR 7440	Related bill	Jul 14, 2020: Became Public Law No: 116-149.
116 HR 7083	Related bill	Jun 1, 2020: Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Ways and Means, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

## Summary (as of Jun 25, 2020)

### Hong Kong Autonomy Act

This bill imposes sanctions on foreign individuals and entities that materially contribute to China's failure to preserve Hong Kong's autonomy.

Hong Kong is part of China but has a largely separate legal and economic system with protections for civil rights such as freedom of speech. This arrangement is enshrined in (1) the Joint Declaration, a 1984 treaty pertaining to the United Kingdom's transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty to China; and (2) the Basic Law, Hong Kong's constitutional document.

The Department of State shall report annually to Congress information about (1) foreign individuals and entities that materially contributed to China's failure to comply with the Joint Declaration or the Basic Law; and (2) foreign financial institutions that knowingly conducted a significant transaction with such identified individuals and entities. An individual, entity, or financial institution may be excluded from this report for various reasons, such as to protect an intelligence source.

The President shall impose property-blocking sanctions on an individual or entity named in a report, and visa-blocking sanctions on a named individual. The President shall impose various sanctions on a financial institution named in a report, such as prohibiting the institution from receiving loans from a U.S. financial institution.

The President may waive or terminate the imposition of sanctions under this bill. Congress may override such a waiver or termination by passing a joint resolution of disapproval.

### Actions Timeline

- Jun 29, 2020: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Jun 29, 2020: Received in the House.
- Jun 29, 2020: Held at the desk.
- Jun 25, 2020: Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- Jun 25, 2020: Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S3285-3289)
- Jun 25, 2020: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.(text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S3285-3289)
- Jun 25, 2020: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S3285-3289)
- Jun 4, 2020: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-320.
- May 21, 2020: Introduced in Senate
- May 21, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.